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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week
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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week

6-24-1955

Robertson, Willie and Herbert A. family television script

Howard Langfitt

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W L B T

[Robertson, Willie and Herbert]

CONTINUITY

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

CAMERA ON LANGFITT

TODAY'S FARM FAMILY WAS SELECTED ~~KNRXXX~~ WITH THE VERY FINE COOPERATION OF MR. OWENS OF ATALLA MILLS OF KOSCIUSKO. OUR FAMILY FOR TODAY IS A BIG FEEDER OF MAGNOLIA FEEDS AND IT WAS IN THIS WAY THAT MR. OWENS ACQUAINTED ME WITH THE FAMILY AND THE STORY OF THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. THIS IS THE STORY OF TWO FAMILIES....TWO BROTHERS WHO CARRY ON THEIR FARMING OPERATION ON A PARTNERSHIP BASIS. IT IS THE STORY OF MR. AND MRS. WILLIE ROBERTSON AND DAUGHTER GLORIA LEE AND MR. AND MRS. HERBERT A. ROBERTSON AND DAUGHTER JANAYNE. AND, IN A WAY, IT'S THE STORY OF THE MOTHER OF THESE TWO YOUNG MEN, MRS. MINNIE ROBERTSON, WHO OWNS THE LAND THEY WORK AND LIVES WITH THE BOYS. THE ROBERTSON'S LIVE SOUTH AND EAST OF SALLIS, MISSISSIPPI. WILLIE LIVES IN THIS LOVELY LITTLE HOME ON THE FARM AND HERBERT LIVES IN SALLIS WHERE HE CARRIES ON ONE PHASE OF THE FARM PROGRAM...A PHASE WHICH WE WILL TELL YOU ABOUT LATER IN OUR STORY. THE LAND THESE BOYS FARM IS THE OLD HOME PLACE...THE PLACE WHERE THEY GREW TO MANHOOD. THE PRINCIPAL FARM ENTERPRISE OF THE ROBERTSONS IS TURKEY RAISING. THEIR PRESENT FLOCK CONSISTS OF 6700 BIRDS. THERE'S QUITE A STORY BEHIND THE ROBERTSON TURKEY FARM. ONE OF

SLIDE FARM-1
SIGNSLIDE FARM-2
HOUSESLIDE FARM-3
TURKEYS

W L B T

CONTINUITY

BY _____

DATE _____
TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
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SLIDE FARM-X 4
TURKEYS

SLIDE FARM-X 5
TURKEYS *House*

SLIDE FARM-6
BUTANE TANK

THE OTHER BROTHERS WENT TO CALIFORNIA WHERE HE MET AND MARRIED A GIRL WHOSE FATHER WAS IN THE TURKEY BUSINESS. THIS BROTHER BECAME INTERESTED IN TURKEY RAISING AND WENT INTO BUSINESS FOR HIMSELF. HE SENT FOR ANOTHER BROTHER AND WILLIE WHO WENT TO CALIFORNIA AND HELPED TO RAISE TURKEYS. WILLIE WENT TO CALIFORNIA IN 1948 AND BESIDES HELPING THE BROTHERS WITH THEIR FLOCK HE STARTED HIS OWN FLOCK AND RAISED TURKEYS IN CALIFORNIA IN 1948 AND 1949. WHILE IN CALIFORNIA HE MET AND MARRIED HIS CHARMING WIFE. IN 1951 WILLIE CAME HOME TO FARM AS A COTTON FARMER, THE ONLY KIND OF FARMING THIS LAND HAD EVER KNOWN. IN 1952, WILLIE ADDED A HUNDRED TURKEYS TO HIS FARM PROGRAM. IN 1953 HE STEPPED IT UP TO 2700 AS BROTHER HERBERT JOINED HIM IN THE TURKEY BUSINESS. IN 1954 WILLIE AND HERBERT ROBERTSON INCREASED THEIR FLOCK TO 5700 BIRDS AND THEN THIS ~~YEAR~~ ANOTHER INCREASE UP TO 6700. HERBERT AND WILLIE ROBERTSON BROOD ALL THEIR POULTS WITH BUTANE GAS AND ONE OF THE BROTHERS IS ALWAYS ON HAND TO LOOK AFTER THE BIRDS. THEY FOLLOW A STRICT PROGRAM OF SANITATION IN THEIR TWO BROODER HOUSES. THEY ORDER THEIR EGGS FROM THE BROTHERS IN CALIFORNIA AND HAVE THEM HATCHED IN MISSISSIPPI.

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AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-7
TURKEYS

THEY ARE PUT IN THE HOUSES WHEN ONE DAY OLD. AND KEPT THERE FOR EIGHT WEEKS. THE TEMPERATURE IS MAINTAINED AT 95 DEGREES THE FIRST WEEK AND THEN DROPPED FIVE DEGREES EACH WEEK UNTIL THE FIFTH WEEK WHEN THE BROODER IS TURNED OFF AND THE BIRDS ARE RAISED IN A NORMAL TEMPERATURE. IT SEEMS THAT YOUNG POULTS HAVE TO BE TAUGHT TO EAT AND DRINK, SO THE ROBERTSONS PLACE BRIGHT COLORED MARBLES IN THE DRINKING WATER AND FEED TROUGHS TO GET THEM STARTED. NO ONE IS ALLOWED IN THE BROODER HOUSES UNLESS THE ROBERTSONS KNOW WHERE HE HAS BEEN AND WHO HE IS. THE ROBERTSONS RAISE THEIR TURKEYS IN THREE DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS.

SLIDE FARM-8
TURKEYS

THE OLDEST GROUP IS NOW 6 WEEKS OLD, THE NEXT GROUP IS ALMOST FIVE WEEKS AND THE THIRD GROUP IS 4 WEEKS OLD. THE POULTS ARE VACCINATED FOR CHOLERA AT 5 WEEKS AND FOWL POX WHEN MOVED TO THE RANGE AT 8 WEEKS. A STRICT PROGRAM OF FLY CONTROL IS PRACTICED. THEY ARE DE-SNOOTED AT ONE DAY OF AGE TO CONTROL ERESYPLILIS, THE WINGS ARE NOTCHED AT FIVE WEEKS. THIS IS A PROCESS WHEREBY THE LEADER IN THE OUTSIDE JOINT IS CUT TO KEEP THE BIRDS FROM FLYING, AND THEY ARE DE-BEAKED WHEN TAKEN TO THE RANGE AT 8 WEEKS. THE BIRDS ARE HAULED TO RANGE WHICH CONSISTS OF A FIVE ACRE PEN WITH ALL THE BIRDS PLACED IN ONE PEN.

SLIDE FARM-9
RANGE SHELTERS

W L B T

CONTINUITY

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-10
WATER PUMP

SLIDE FARM-11
RANGE FEEDERS

SLIDE FARM*-12
SELF FEEDER

THE RANGE IS CHANGED EVERY THREE WEEKS AND THE RANGE USED IS NOT USED AGAIN FOR TWO YEARS AS A DISEASE CONTROL MEASURE. THE ROBERTSONS HAVE 17 AUTOMATIC WATERERS ON THE RANGE AND THE WATER IS SUPPLIED FROM A SHALLOW WELL WHICH HERBERT AND WILLIE ROBERTSON DUG IN THE RANGE AREA. THEY HAVE 53 FEEDERS ON THE RANGE AND THE BIRDS START GETTING WHOLE OATS AND PELLETS AT 6 WEEKS OF AGE. PRIOR TO THIS THEY ARE FED ONLY PELLETS AND A FEW GROUND OATS. WHILE ON THE RANGE THEY GET OATS, RICE, PELLETS, MILO AND ALFALFA OR OAT HAY. THE RANGE IS LOCATED IN PINE TIMBER FOR PROTECTION AND SHADE. FIRE LANES ARE CUT AROUND EACH TEN ACRES FOR PROTECTION. ALL UNDERGROWTH IS CLEARED AWAY WHICH IS GOOD FOR THE TURKEYS AND GOOD FOR THE TIMBER. THE TOMS AND THE HENS ARE SEPERATED AT 16 WEEKS. THE HENS ARE MARKETING AT ABOUT 23 WEEKS WEIGHING 15-16 POUNDS AND THE TOMS ARE MARKETING AT 25 WEEKS WEIGHING FROM 25-28 POUNDS. JUST LIKE ANY OTHER FARM ENTERPRISE, THE TURKEY BUSINESS HAS GOOD YEARS AND BAD YEARS. THE ROBERTSONS HAVE BUILT THEIR OWN SELF FEEDER WHICH OPERATES OFF THE TRACTOR POWER TAKE-OFF. THEY CAN PULL IT TO THE RANGE AND PLACE THE FEED IN THE BUNKS AS THEY DRIVE ALONG WITH THE TRACTOR DRIVER

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TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
SLIDE <u>FARM-13</u> OAT FIELD	<p>TURNING ON AND CUTTING OFF THE FEED FLOW AS HE DESIRES WITHOUT STOPPING. THE ROBERTSONS RAISE OATS FOR FEED. TOTAL OAT ACREAGE IS ABOUT 50 ACRES WITH 35 ACRES FOR COMBINING AND 15 ACRES TO BE PUT UP AS OAT HAY. THE ROBERTSON OAT CROP MADE 55 BUSHEL TO THE ACRE LAST YEAR AND LOOKS EVEN BETTER THIS YEAR. PRACTICALLY ALL OF THE ROBERTSON FARM PROGRAM IS MECHANICALLY HANDLED. THE SEEF FEEDER BUILT TO HAUL FEED TO TURKEYS IS ALSO USED TO HAUL OATS FROM THE COMBINE TO THE GRAIN BIN AND IS UNLOADED SIMPLY BY ENGAGING THE TRACTOR POWER TAKE-OFF, OPENING A TRAP DOOR AND RUNNING THE OATS OUT INTO AN AUGER TYPE ELEVATOR THAT PUTS THEM IN THESE TWO MODERN STEEL BINS. AS SOON AS THE OATS ARE HARVESTED THE LAND WILL BE SEEDED TO MILO FOR FURTHER NEEDED FEED. OF COURSE WILLIE AND HERBERT ROBERTSON ALSO FEED COMMERCIALY PROCESSED TURKEY FEED TO THEIR FLOCK. THEIR FEEDING AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IS ONE OF THE FINEST I'VE SEEN. THESE MEN ALSO HAVE A FEW HOGS AND CATTLE, SO CORN IS RAISED TO FEED THEM. THEY HAVE 30 ACRES IN CORN THIS YEAR.. AS I SAID EARLIER, WILLIE ROBERTSON CAME BACK TO THE FARM TO RAISE COTTON. AT ONE TIME HE RAISED AS MUCH AS 70 ACRES OF CTTON AT A TIME,</p>
SLIDE <u>FARM-14</u> OATS & COMBINE	
SLIDE <u>FARM-15</u> OAT HAULING	
SLIDE <u>FARM-16</u> COMMERCIAL FEED	
SLIDE <u>FARM-17</u> CORN FIELD	
SLIDE <u>FARM-18</u> COTTON	

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TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-19
TRUCK CROPS

SLIDE FARM-20
POND

SLIDE FARM-21
LAYING HOUSE

AND THEY STILL RAISE COTTON, THOUGH NOT NEARLY SO MUCH. COTTON ACREAGE THIS YEAR IS 38 ACRES. ALL EXPERIMENT STATION RECOMMENDATIONS ARE FOLLOWED WHETHER IT BE TURKEYS, LIVESTOCK OR CROPS. WILLIE AND HERBERT ROBERTSON CERTAINLY DON'T HAVE ALL THEIR EGGS IN ONE BASKET. BESIDES THE THINGS ALREADY MENTIONED, THEY ALSO RAISE TRUCK CROPS FOR THE COMMERCIAL MARKET. THEY HAVE FIVE ACRES OF WATERMELONS, AND AN ACRE OF CANTELOPPE. WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS THEY HAVE FORMED A WATERMELON ASSOCIATION IN THE COMMUNITY AND ALL TOLD THE FARMERS IN THE AREA MARKET 125 ACRES OF WATERMELONS THROUGH THIS ASSOCIATION....THE PURPOSE BEING TO GET A BETTER MARKET AND A BETTER PRICE. THE WATERMELONS ARE STRATEGICALLY LOCATED IN A FIELD JUST BELOW THIS POND AND THE POND IS USED TO IRRIGATE THEM BY A CONTROLLED FLOODING SYSTEM AS NEEDED. THE ROBERTSONS HAVE 25 ACRES OF PASTURE, 7 ACRES OF IT IMPROVED AND THE REST NATIVE GRASSES. THEY HAVE FOUR DAIRY ANIMALS FOR MILK AND BUTTER, 4 HOGS FOR CURING FOR FOOD AND A BEEF FOR THE DEEP FREEZE. 40 ACRES OF THE 200 IS IN FINE PINE TIMBER WHICH ALSO PRODUCES A CROP. NOW IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT RAISING TURKEYS AND CHICKENS ON THE SAME FARM ONLY CREATES MANY HEADACHES, BUT THE ROBERTSON BROTHERS WANTED TO

W L B T

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BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM#22
DEEP FREEZE

CAMERA ON FAMILY

PRODUCE HATCHING EGGS, SO HERBERT AND WILLIE ROBERTSON CONSTRUCTED A LAYING HOUSE JUST BACK OF HERBERT'S HOME IN SALLIS. IN THIS HOUSE THEY HAVE 490 LAYING HENS. FOOD IS IMPORTANT TO THESE TWO FAMILIES AND THEY TRY TO RAISE EVERYTHING THEY NEED. MUCH OF IT GOES INTO THIS DEEP FREEZE INCLUDING FRUIT, VEGETABLES, POULTRY AND BEEF. AND IN THIS WAY A CONSTANT SUPPLY OF FRESH, HOME GROWN FOODS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO BOTH FAMILIES WELL, THERE'S MORE TO THE STORY, AND IN A MOMENT, WE'LL HEAR MORE OF IT FROM THESE FINE FARM FOLKS, BUT IN THE MEANTIME, YOU TAKE A LOOK AT THEM WHILE I TELL OF SOME OF THEIR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES BOTH FAMILIES BELONG TO A METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH LOCATED THREE MILES FROM THE FARM. HERBERT IS A STEWARD IN THE CHURCH. THE BOYS MOTHER IS SECRETARY-TREASURER OF THE CHURCH. HERBERT TAUGHT AN ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS AT SALLIS METHODIST CHURCH FOR TWO YEARS. WILLIE IS A TRUSTEE OF THE SALLIS CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL. HERBERT IS POSTMASTER IN SALLIS. THEY ARE BOTH FARM BUREAU MEMBERS AND MEMBERS OF THE M.P.I.A. BOTH FAMILIES BELONG TO THE SALLIS COMMUNITY CLUB. ONE OF THEIR RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THIS CLUB WAS THE SPONSORSHIP OF A COMMUNITY WID

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FROM _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

REVIVAL WHICH WAS PARTICIPATED IN BY THE FOUR
LOCAL CHURCHES...BAPTIST, METHODIST, LUTHERAN
AND METHODIST PROTESTANT. THE FOUR PREACHERS
CONDUCTED THE REVIVAL FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.
WELL, THAT'S ENOUGH OF MY TALKING, LET'S HEAR
SOME MORE OF THIS STORY FROM THE ROBERTSONS.